

令和 6 年 6 月 26 日現在

機関番号：18001  
研究種目：若手研究  
研究期間：2018～2023  
課題番号：18K12374  
研究課題名（和文）Comparative Semantics of Yaeyaman Verbal Morphology

研究課題名（英文）Comparative Semantics of Yaeyaman Verbal Morphology

## 研究代表者

クリストファー デイビス (DAVIS, Christopher)

琉球大学・国際地域創造学部・准教授

研究者番号：80647339

交付決定額（研究期間全体）：（直接経費） 1,600,000円

研究成果の概要（和文）：八重山語の各方言における動詞の活用とそれに伴う意味を中心に研究を行いながら、動詞における敬語形式の比較研究を行い、八重山語と日本語と朝鮮語の比較研究を行った。八重山語の中では主に鳩間方言と小浜方言を対象にした現地調査を行い、その他に竹富方言や新城方言など八重山語を幅広く比較できるように調査を行った。

研究方法は主に「文法調査」と「自然談話調査」という二つの方法に分けて行った。前者は動詞の活用に焦点を当てて行い、後者は自然談話の中で動詞がどの形で現れるかを観察するために自然談話を録音して、書き起こしと分析を行った。後者の資料は今後アーカイブで公開する予定である。

## 研究成果の学術的意義や社会的意義

消滅の危機に瀕した琉球諸語の一つである八重山語を対象にした研究として、今回のプロジェクトが主に動詞の活用系や敬語形式に焦点を与えて行ったが、今後の言語継承なども考慮し、自然談話も数多く収集し今後はアーカイブを通して公開する予定である。また、学術意義としては、敬語形式の使われる場面が八重山語の方言によって違いを発見することができ、また八重山語と日本語との違いを見つけることができた。この違いに基づいて論じた結果、さらに朝鮮語まで視野を広めて、動詞の敬語形式の意味論・語用論的な研究成果を国際学会などで発表し、敬語に関する研究を発展することができた。

研究成果の概要（英文）：I conducted fieldwork focused primarily on the verbal system of various dialects of Yaeyaman, and undertook a comparative analysis of the verbal honorific system in Yaeyaman, Japanese, and Korean. Within Yaeyaman my fieldwork was focused on the Hatoma and Kohama dialects, with additional fieldwork on Taketomi, Aragusuku, and other dialects as well.

The primary field research consisted of both grammatical elicitation and the collection, transcription, and analysis of naturalistic texts. The former as focused on eliciting a variety of verb forms with different verbal roots, while the latter was aimed at observing which verb forms were used in different contexts. I plan to archive these recordings and make them available to the public in the near future, once the transcriptions are finalized and final speaker consent is obtained.

研究分野：言語学

キーワード：Yaeyaman verbs honorifics Korean Japanese semantics pragmatics fieldwork

### 1 . 研究開始当初の背景

This research project was aimed at investigating and describing the verbal system of Yaeyaman, with a focus on comparing different dialects within the language. For the Ishigaki dialect, there is a rather comprehensive description of the verbal system (Suzuki et al, 2001, Ryūkyū Yaeyama no dōsi no kenkyū: Isigaki hōgen no dōsi no asupekuto to tensu (chūkan hōkoku) [Research on the Yaeyama Ryūkyūan verb: Verbal tense and aspect in Ishigaki dialect]), as well as partial descriptions of the verbal systems of other dialects to be found in dictionaries and grammar sketches. There is, however, little explicitly comparative work examining interdialectal similarities and differences between the different dialects of Yaeyaman. There is also a notable lack of transcribed and analyzed naturalistic texts for various dialects of the language.

### 2 . 研究の目的

This project had two main goals:

- 1) To gather comparative data on various verb forms across several dialects of Yaeyaman.
- 2) To gather naturalistic texts (monologs and dialogs) in the target language, in order to examine the use of the verbal forms in context, as well as to aid in documenting this highly endangered language.

In the original project plan, the theoretical aim of the research was to focus on tense, aspectual, and evidential contrasts encoded in the verbal system. While I did gather data related to these issues, in the end the theoretical component of the research was focused on cross-dialectal and cross-linguistic differences in the verbal honorific system.

### 3 . 研究の方法

The research on Yaeyaman was carried out with the following methodologies:

- (1) Recording of naturalistic texts aimed at gathering naturalistic uses of various verb forms in context.
- (2) Grammatical elicitation of various verb forms in which native speakers translated sentences of Japanese into their own dialect of Yaeyaman.
- (3) Felicity/naturalness judgments of different verbal forms in particular constructed contexts.

The methodology in (1) was implemented by having participants describe a video (the pear story video as well as clips from a silent Buster Keaton film) to another speaker of the same dialect who was unable to see the video. The speakers were then instructed to discuss the video that was just watched, before finally being recorded watching and talking about the video together. By using the same videos and methodology with speakers of different dialects, I aimed to create a corpus of naturalistic texts with a consistent context, facilitating comparison of verbal forms describing the same events across different dialects. Another goal of this component of the research was to document the language by collecting more naturalistic data than is possible with the other two methodologies.

The methodology in (2) was aimed at gathering sufficient data to describe the verbal morphology (conjugations) across a variety of verb roots. In addition to simple sentences aimed at eliciting different verb forms, participants also translated a simple story constructed by the researcher, aimed at elucidating potentially subtle differences in the use of verb forms as a function of context.

Finally, the methodology in (3) was aimed at understanding the semantics and pragmatics of the verb forms uncovered in (1) and (2) by exploring which contexts of use were compatible with each verb form, using constructed rather than natural contexts (contrasting with (1)) that were described to the participant, who would then provide natural verb forms for that context, as well as judgments of the felicity of alternative verb forms provided by the researcher.

The comparative research on Yaeyaman and Japanese verbal honorifics was extended to experimental work on verbal honorifics in Korean, using an experimental version of the methodology described in (3). In this experimental work, speakers of Korean were asked to judge the felicity of honorific and plain verb forms with different subjects (low-status, high-status, and conjoined subjects of mixed social status). This theoretical work was also extended to work on the honorific systems of Hindi-Urdu and Javanese.

#### 4 . 研究成果

The core results of this research are as follows:

(1) The collection of a corpus of naturalistic text (monologs and dialogs) made in contexts designed to elicit a variety of verb forms, with an eye toward making future comparative research possible. Additionally, a short story ("The Run-Away Goat") was translated into a number of dialects of Yaeyaman. Finally, I did targeted elicitation of various forms for each dialect examined; these included in particular the Hatoma, Kohama, Maezato, Taketomi, and Aragusuku dialects.

(2) The empirical and theoretical analysis of semantic and pragmatic differences in the use of verbal honorifics in three dialects of Yaeyaman (Hatoma, Kohama, and Maezato), Japanese, and Korean, building on the fieldwork in (1). This theoretical work was also extended to the honorific systems of Hindi-Urdu and Javanese.

The data collected in (1) is currently being prepared for gradual dissemination via an online archive. This in turn will make a contribution to the documentation of Yaeyaman, and allow for future research based on naturalistic data. Yaeyaman translations of the "Run-Away Goat" story are also being prepared for use as a language learning resource for the younger generation, with the aim of helping in language reclamation and preservation efforts.

The data and analysis (2) has been presented and published in a number of venues, and serves as the basis for ongoing experimental work on the semantics and pragmatics of verbal honorifics in Korean, in collaboration with Sunwoo Jeong of Seoul National University. This international collaboration is itself another result of this research project. The core question addressed in this work is what happens in cases of conjoined subjects where one conjunct would normally require a verbal honorific while the other would normally be pragmatically incompatible with such marking. My fieldwork demonstrated inter-dialectal variation in the answer to this question, as well as differences depending on whether the conjuncts are first, second, or third person. The theory developed to account for this variation was then tested experimentally for Korean, and is now being further refined on the basis of those results. I also extended the investigation of verbal honorifics to other languages, in particular Hindi-Urdu, in collaboration with Rajesh Bhatt of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, as well as Javanese.

#### Papers

- Davis, Christopher. 2021/03/03. *Pragmatic constraints on subject-oriented honorifics in Yaeyaman and Japanese*. Published in Proceedings of SALT 30. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3765/salt.v30i0.4838>
- Davis, Christopher. 2022/06/08. *Deriving categorical and continuous properties of Javanese speech levels*. Published in Proceedings of the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA).
- Bhatt, Rajesh and Christopher Davis. 2022/12/29. *Number, honor, and agreement in Hindi-Urdu*. Published in Proceedings of (F)ASAL-12.

#### Presentations

- Davis, Christopher. 2021/05/26. *Deriving categorical and continuous properties of Javanese speech levels*. Talk at AFLA 28.
- Davis, Christopher and Sunwoo Jeong. 2021/10/08. *Syntactic and pragmatic constraints on subject-oriented honorifics in Korean*. Presentation at J/K 29 Workshop on Data-oriented approaches to meaning in Korean and Japanese.
- Davis, Christopher and Sunwoo Jeong. 2022/05/18–20. *To honor or not to honor: Korean honorifics with mixed status conjoined subjects*. Poster at ELM2.
- Bhatt, Rajesh and Christopher Davis. 2023/01/20. *Honor and Plurality in Hindi-Urdu*. Talk at CHARTING HONORIFIC and ADDRESSEE MORPHOSYNTACTIC PROCESSES (CHAMP).
- Davis, Christopher and Sunwoo Jeong. 2024/02/01. *An experimental investigation into honorification of mixed-status subjects in Korean*. Talk at CHAMP 2.
- Davis, Christopher. 2024/02/02. *Towards a semantics of the Javanese speech level system*. Talk at CHAMP 2.

## 5. 主な発表論文等

〔雑誌論文〕 計3件（うち査読付論文 3件/うち国際共著 1件/うちオープンアクセス 2件）

1. 著者名 Christopher Davis	4. 巻 28
2. 論文標題 Deriving categorical and continuous properties of Javanese speech levels	5. 発行年 2022年
3. 雑誌名 Proceedings of the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association (AFLA)	6. 最初と最後の頁 11-28
掲載論文のDOI（デジタルオブジェクト識別子） なし	査読の有無 有
オープンアクセス オープンアクセスとしている（また、その予定である）	国際共著 -

1. 著者名 Rajesh Bhatt and Christopher Davis	4. 巻 1
2. 論文標題 Number, honor, and agreement in Hindi-Urdu	5. 発行年 2023年
3. 雑誌名 Proceedings of (F)ASAL-12	6. 最初と最後の頁 xx-xx
掲載論文のDOI（デジタルオブジェクト識別子） なし	査読の有無 有
オープンアクセス オープンアクセスとしている（また、その予定である）	国際共著 該当する

1. 著者名 Christopher Davis	4. 巻 30
2. 論文標題 Pragmatic constraints on subject-oriented honorifics in Yaeyaman and Japanese	5. 発行年 2021年
3. 雑誌名 Semantics and Linguistic Theory	6. 最初と最後の頁 674-693
掲載論文のDOI（デジタルオブジェクト識別子） 10.3765/salt.v30i0.4838	査読の有無 有
オープンアクセス オープンアクセスではない、又はオープンアクセスが困難	国際共著 -

〔学会発表〕 計4件（うち招待講演 0件/うち国際学会 3件）

1. 発表者名 Christopher Davis and Sunwoo Jeong
2. 発表標題 To honor or not to honor: Korean honorifics with mixed status conjoined subjects.
3. 学会等名 Experiments in Linguistic Meaning（国際学会）
4. 発表年 2022年

1. 発表者名 Christopher Davis
2. 発表標題 Pragmatic constraints on subject-oriented honorifics in Yaeyaman and Japanese
3. 学会等名 Semantics and Linguistic Theory (国際学会)
4. 発表年 2020年

1. 発表者名 Christopher Davis
2. 発表標題 Pragmatic constraints on subject-oriented honorifics in Yaeyaman and Japanese
3. 学会等名 Semantics and Linguistic Theory (国際学会)
4. 発表年 2020年

1. 発表者名 クリス・デイビス
2. 発表標題 八重山語の意味論的な研究に向けた(不)自然談話の取り方と分析
3. 学会等名 沖縄言語研究センター定例研究会
4. 発表年 2018年

〔図書〕 計0件

〔産業財産権〕

〔その他〕

-

6. 研究組織

氏名 (ローマ字氏名) (研究者番号)	所属研究機関・部局・職 (機関番号)	備考

7. 科研費を使用して開催した国際研究集会

〔国際研究集会〕 計0件

8 . 本研究に関連して実施した国際共同研究の実施状況

共同研究相手国	相手方研究機関
---------	---------